

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 02354 031026Z
ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
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AMEMBASSY ANKARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2354

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, CY
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS EVALUATION: CYPRUS

REF: STATE 201524

1. HUMAN RIGHTS EVALUATION FOR CYPRUS (REFTEL) IS BALANCED
AND GENERALLY ACCURATE STATEMENT. EMBASSY HAS COMMENTS ON
SEVERAL SPECIFIC POINTS AS FOLLOWS.

2. FIRST TEXTUAL PARAGRAPH SUGGESTS THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN
THE GREEK AND TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES WERE ALWAYS TENSE
AND MARKED BY VIOLENCE. DURING PERIOD OF UK CONTROL THERE WAS
ALMOST NO INTERCOMMUNAL VIOLENCE AND EVEN IN OTTOMAN PERIOD
THERE WERE FEW INSTANCES OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. TO GIVE
MORE ACCURATE IMPRESSION, RECOMMEND PARAGRAPH BE MODIFIED BY
CHANGING THIRD SENTENCE TO READ AS FOLLOWS: "IN CYPRUS GREEK
AND TURKISH COMMUNITIES HAVE LIVED CLOSELY ALONGSIDE EACH
OTHER FOR CENTURIES WITH SOME PERIODS OF TRANQUILITY
AMONG THE COMMUNITIES, PARTICULARLY WHEN CYPRUS WAS
CONTROLLED BY AN OUTSIDE POWER. THESE PERIODS HAVE
BEEN BROKEN ON FREQUENT OCCASIONS AND THE CONFLICTS AND
TENSIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COMMUNITIES AT THESE TIMES
HAVE BEEN INTENSE."

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PAGE 02 NICOSI 02354 031026Z

3. SECOND TEXTUAL PARAGRAPH SUGGESTS ERRONEOUSLY THAT GREEK
AND TURKISH CYPRIOT ATTACKS WERE IN APPROXIMATELY EQUAL
PROPORTION IN 1963/64 FIGHTING. WE RECOMMEND THIRD
SENTENCE BE REVISED AS FOLLOWS: "INTERCOMMUNAL FIGHTING
ERUPTED IN 1963/64, RESULTING IN THE DEATH OR DISAPPEARANCE
FO SEVERAL HUNDRED CYPRIOTS, MOSTLY TURKISH."

4. THIRD TEXTUAL PARAGRAPH, PENULTIMATE SENTENCE. SUGGEST DELETING WORD "INDEED" AS SENTENCE SOUNDS MORE FACTUAL AND LESS WEIGHTED WITHOUT IT.

5. FOURTH TEXTUAL PARAGRAPH. THERE IS CONFUSION BETWEEN PRECEDING PARAGRAPH, WHICH MENTIONS SIX VIOLATIONS, AND THE SECOND SENTENCE THIS PARA WHICH LISTS ONLY FIVE. SUGGEST FIRST TWO SENTENCES BE MODIFIED AS FOLLOWS: "IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT, TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, NONE OF THE VIOLATIONS CITED IN THE COMMISSION'S REPORT CONTINUES EXCEPT FOR THE DEPRIVATION OF PROPERTY. THERE ARE NO CONFIRMED REPORTS OF RECENT INSTANCES OF LARGE-SCALE OR POLITICALLY-INSPIRED MURDER, RAPE, OR LOOTING, OR OF ILLEGAL DETENTION OR INHUMAN TREATMENT OF PRISONERS." WE ALSO SUGGEST THAT LAST CLAUSE OF LAST SENTENCE IN THIS PARAGRAPH BE ELIMINATED BECAUSE WE UNDERSTAND SOME RESTRICTIONS HAVE BEEN REINSTATED ON MOVEMENT OF GREEK CYPRIOTS IN THE KARPAS.

6. FIFTH TEXTUAL PARAGRAPH. IN THE FIRST SENTENCE THE FIGURE 160,000 SHOULD NOT BE USED. WE ARE CURRENTLY UNDERTAKING A STUDY OF THE PRE-1974 STATISTICS WHICH INDICATE THAT IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE FOR MORE THAN ABOUT 140,000 GREEK CYPRIOTS TO HAVE BEEN RESIDENT IN THE NORTH. IN THE SECOND SENTENCE IT IS OVERSTATEMENT TO SAY THAT TURK CYPRIOT AUTHORITIES HAVE NOT BEEN CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 NICOSI 02354 031026Z

"TOTALLY" FORTHCOMING IN RESPONDING TO ATTEMPTS TO TRACE MISSING PERSONS; THUS WE RECOMMEND IT BE MODIFIED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: "MOREOVER THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT AND THE TURKISH CHPRIOT AUTHORITIES HAVE NOT BEEN RESPONSIVE TO REQUESTS FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON THE FATE OF SOME 2,000 PERSONS (MOSTLY GREEK CYPRIOTS) WHO ARE STILL LISTED AS MISSING (AND UNACCOUNTED FOR) SINCE THE EVENTS OF 1974." IN THE NEXT SENTENCE IT IS NOT CORRECT THAT IT IS WIDELY PRESUMED THAT "MOST IF NOT ALL OF THESE PEOPLE WERE KILLED IN 1974." THEREFORE SUGGEST ENDING THIS SENTENCE WITH THE WORD "MAKARIOS" AND DELETING PORTION BEGINNING "AND IT IS WIDELY PRESUMED..."

7. SEVENTH TEXTUAL PARAGRAPH. IT IS NOT PRECISELY CORRECT THAT THE ACCOUNTING FOR MISSING PERSONS WILL BE POSSIBLE ONLY WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT ON THE ISLAND. AS THE NEXT PARAGRAPH RIGHTLY NOTES, WE HOPE THERE WILL BE POSSIBILITIES IN THE NEXT YEAR, REGARDLESS OF PROGRESS TOWARDS A SOLUTION. WE THEREFORE SUGGEST THOUGHT BE GIVEN TO MODIFYING THE SENTENCE IN QUESTION TO TAKE CARE OF THE INCONSISTENCIES BETWEEN TEXTUAL PARAGRAPHS 7 AND 8.

8. TEXTUAL PARAGRAPH 8. LAST CLAUSE IS NOT CORRECT.
THIS EMBASSY IS NOT AWARE OF ANY STEPS BEING TAKEN TO
IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT TO FORM A MIXED COMMISSION.
SUGGEST THAT CLAUSE BE MODIFIED TO SAY THAT WE HOPE
STEPS WILL BE TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 03-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
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